

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

TRSE-00 RSR-01 /184 W

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 3673

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC-ILO

SUBJ: ECOSOC-ITEM 17 (A)-REPORT OF ILO

REF: GENEVA 3400, 3567

1. SUMMARY: THE "IN DEPTH" REPORT OF THE ILO WAS CRITICALLY RECEIVED BY ALMOST ALL MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATION COMMITTEE. CRITICISM RANGED FROM INEFFECTIVENESS, TO THE PROPER ROLE OF ILO IN DD II AND TO A REOPENING CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS. THE DG'S RESPONSE TO THESE CRITICISMS WAS EVASIVE AND GENERALLY DID NOT SATISFY THE MEMBERS.

2. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL DID NOT INTROODUCE HIS REPORT, UNLIKE THE SYG OF IMCO AND THE DG OF UNESCO. HE MERELY REFERRED TO HIS STATEMENT IN PLENARY. NETHERLANDS IMMEDIATE CRITICIZE HIM FOR PRESENTING A MUCH ROSIER PICTURE OF ILO THAN REALITY WARRANTED, DESCRIBING THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE GOVERNING OARD AS A CRISIS WITHIN ILO. HE CRITICIZE JENKS FOR CASTING DOUBT IN HIS PLENARY STATEMENT ON THE DESIRABILITY OF REVIEWING THE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, DISREGARDING THE UN SYG COMMENTS IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS. THE U.S. INTERVENTION OL-
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LOWED AS GIVEN IN REFTEL A. THE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES, HUNGARY,

USSR, UKRAINE AND POLAND, EACH CASTIGATED THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR MISREPRESENTING THE HEALTH OF THE ORGANIZATION, POINTING TO THE CRISIS

IN THE LAST GB, STATING THAT TRIPARTITE CONCEPT IN 50 YEAR OLD CONSTITUTION DID NOT MEET PRESENT NEEDS AND NOT REFLECTING THE REAL CURRENT RELATIONSHIPS OF THE WORLD TRADE UNION MOVEMENTS. EACH COMPLAINED OF INEFFICIENCY AND INEFFECTIVENESS OF ILO PROGRAMS IN VIGOROUS TERMS. THE SOVIETS SINGLED OUT THE MANAGEMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES OF ILO AS PARTICULARLY INAPPROPRIATE FOR A "LABOUR ORGANIZATION" TO BE INVOLVED IN. ONE CONSISTENT THEME OF THE EASTERN EUROPEANS, AS IN THEIR UNESCO INTERVENTIONS, WAS

THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT BE CALLED UPON TO PAY THE COSTS CAUSED BY WESTERN DEVALUATION, AND INFLATION, TERMING THESE INCREASES AS "UNACCEPTABLE". EACH, IN TURN, COMPLAINED OF THE REGULAR BUDGET FUNDING OF THE TURIN CENTRE.

3. FRANCE CRITICIZED THE ILO FOR FAILURE TO FULLY TAKE OVER ITS ROLE RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT AND THE EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY, NOTING THE LACK OF EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS. HE CAUTIONED THAT GREAT CARE WAS NEEDED TO KEEP FROM GETTING INTO OTHER SPHERES OF COMPETENCE, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO THE WORLD EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM. HE CAUTIONED AGAINST ILO GETTING INTO POLITICAL AREAS RIGHTFULLY THE ROLE OF THE UNGA. HE CALLED FOR IMPROVEMENT OF ILO'S METHODS OF ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES AND PROGRAM BALANCE AND FOR THE NEED TO GEAR PROGRAMS TO PRECISE OBJECTIVES OF DDII. WHILE NOTING APPARENT DAILY COORDINATION ACTIVITIES MENTIONED IN REPORT, HE POINTED TO THE WEAKNESS OF THE MINISTRIES OF LABOUR IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN RELATION TO THE COUNTRY PLANNING PROCESS AND THE LITTLE WEIGHT THE UNDP RESREP FREQUENTLY GAVE TO LABOR CONSIDERATION, CALLING FOR THE FINDING OF MORE APPROPRIATE METHODS FOR COORDINATION AT A LOCAL LEVEL. HE WARNED THAT ILO DECENTRALIZATION COULD WELL WATER DOWN HQ CONTROL AND NOTED THAT EACH ORGANIZATION SHOULD HAVE A CENTRAL OFFICE IN CHARGE OF UNDP PROJECTS AND, IN THIS CONTEXT, THE ILO REGIONAL EXPERTS, PAID BY UNDP., WERE HARMFUL. HE ALSO CASTIGATED THE DG FOR ILO'S FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLINGLY IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMPUTING CENTER.

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4. THE OBSERVER FROM IRELAND, NOTED NEEDS TO IMPROVE PLANNING AND EVALUATION, CRITICIZED COORDINATION MACHINERY AS "FIRE BRIGADE" TYPE WHEN EFFECTIVE COORDINATION COME FROM HIGH-LEVEL COORDINATION OF PLANNING WITHIN OVERALL UN ESTABLISHED POLICIES, AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT PRIOR CONSULTATIONS ON MEDIUM TERM PLANS WOULD PROVE EFFECTIVE. KENYA, IN A GENERAL COMPLEMENTARY STATEMENT, CHALLENGED THE DG FOR HIS STATEMENT IN PLENARY ON REVIEWING THE INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS, AND STATED HE SUPPORTED

US AND FRANCE'S INTERVENTIONS FULLY. PAKISTAN
COMPLAINED OF TOTAL FAILURE TO POINT OUT ANY COORDINATION
PROBLEMS AREAS, STATING HARD TO BELIEVE THERE WERE NONE. HE
ALSO CASTIGATED THE DG FOR HIS RELUCTANCE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE
COORDINATION COMMITTEE EXCEPT IN VERY LIMITED TIMES, STATING
REPORTING TO ECOSOC WAS PART OF HIS DUTIES.

5. ITALY NOTED THAT FROM DESCRIPTION IN REPORT EVERYTHING SEEM
WELL COORDINATION WHICH SHE DOUBTED. SHE NOTED THE PROPOSAL
FOR COMPREHENSIVE ILO INCOME DISTRIBUTION STUDY AND THAT SAME
PROBLEMS ALSO BEFORE THE COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING-
SHOULD THERE NOT BE A COMMON EFFORT, OR DOES ILO JUST WANT MORE
MONEY? SHE SAID THE ILO REFOR OF ITS STRUCTURE LONG OVERDUE
AND DG'S STATEMENTS OF RENEWAL FROM WITHIN WERE JUST EMPTY
WORDS (FRESH AIR WAS NEEDED). ECOSOC SHOULD GIVE THIS PARTICULAR
EMPHASIS IN THE REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENTS WITH THE SPECIALIZED
AGENCIES. INDIA, AFTER REPEATING ESSENCE OF HIS UNESCO STATEMENT
THAT ECOSOC NOT DUPLICATING ROLE OF INDIVIDUAL AGENCY'S
GOVERNING BODIES, NOTED ALL PERVASIVE ILO ACTIVITIES WITH RAMIFICATIO
N
THROUGHOUT THE UN SYSTEM, MAKING COORDINATION MOST DIFFICULT.
HE STATED ILO SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON "SUPPLY OF WORKERS, NOT
DEMAND FOR WORKERS." COMMENTING ON WHETHER ILO SHOULD BE
OPERATIONAL OR ADVISORY, HE NOTED POSSIBLY IT SHOULD BE A BIT OF
BOTH, BUT PERHAPS MUCH MORE TENDING TO THE ADVISORY SIDE.
NOTING THE U.S. COMMENTS ON POTENTIAL CONFLICT BETWEEN SOCIAL
SECURITY AND GROWTH, IT WAS BASICALLY UP TO INDIVIDUAL GOVER-
NMENTS TO DECIDE, WITH ILO PLAYING ADVISORY ROLE. AFTER STATING
HE FELT ILO MAKING BEST USE OF ITS RESOURCES, GIVEN ITS
OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES, HE ASKED (1) FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
ILO/IMCO RELATIONS AND (2) RELATIONS OF ILO'S STUDY ON MULTIN-
ATIONAL CORPORATIONS WITH ECOSOC AND UNCTAD.

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6. SPAIN AFTER GENERAL COMPLIMENTARY STATEMENT, NOTED THAT ILO WAS "HAVING TROUBLE RESTRAINING ITS OPTIMISM" WHICH RESULTED IN EXCESSIVE BUDGETARY GROWTH. HE NOTED STUDY GROUP THAT HAD BEEN FORMED ON THE BUDGET AND HOPED THIS WOULD HELP FIND PRIORITIES FOR ILO AND ANSWER TO ITS BUDGET PROBLEMS. CHILE CRITICISED THE DG FOR RUNNING AN "OBLIGARGICAL" ORGANIZATION WHICH DOES FOLLOW PRIORITIES OR MEET NEEDS OF THE MAJORITY OF ITS MEMBERS, CALLING FOR LEGISLATIVE REFORM OF THE ILO. HE STATED ILO IN A MAJOR CRISIS, FAILING EVEN TO MEET ITS OBJECTIVES IN LABOUR STANDARD SETTING, MAINTAINING OBSOLETE PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE ARBITRATION COMMISSIONS. FINLAND SUPPORTED U.S. STATEMENT AND ASKED THAT IT BE CONVEYED TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF ILO.

7. THE DG, WHOSE REPLY CAME LATE IN THE DAY SO NO OPPORTUNITY EXISTED TO CARRY ON A DIALOGUE, STATED HE WOULDN'T REPLY TO EACH COMMENT, ALTHOUGH EACH WOULD BE "MOST CAREFULLY CONSIDERED". HE AGREED WITH INDIA THAT ECOSOC NO PLACE TO BRING UP CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND BUDGETS. HE STATED HE COULD SAY NO MORE ON THESE SUBJECTS THAN DECISIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE. AS FOR ITALY'S CALL FOR FRESH AIR IN THE ORGANIZATION, HE MERELY NOTED THAT THE WINDOWS IN THE NEW BUILDING COULD BE OPENED. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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MISUNDERSTOOD IN HIS STATEMENT ON THE REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENTS-OF COURSE THEY SHOULD BE REVIEW BUT SUCH A REVIEW MUST BE A COLLECTIVE EFFORT BEACUSE OF THE TRIPARTITE NATUREOF ILO. HE ASSURED ITALY THAT ILO'S WORK ON INCOME DISTRIBUTION, A MOST COMPLEX SUBJECT, WOULD BE CARRIED OUT "IN FULL CONSULTATION"; HE STATED TO INDIA THAT IMCO/ILO COOPERATION ON SEAFARERS HAD ONLY ONE PROBLEM- DID IT PROVIDE FOR ENOUGH ACTION? ON ILO/UNIDO WORK ON MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT HE STATED IT WAS RELATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL INDUSTIRIES IN LDC'S AND WAS TO BE A SUBJECT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS. ON THE QUESTION OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, HE COULD SAY NO MORE AT THIS POINT THAN THAT HE WAS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH UN AND UNCTAD SECRETARIATS. FOR THE SOVIET BLOC HE BELITTLED THE SIZE OF ILO'S EFFORTS IN MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT, CLAIMING IT WAS JUSTIFIED AS NECESASARY TO CREATE THE PROPER ENVIRONMENT FOR WORKERS TO WORK IN, CLAIMING HE HAD NO CONTROL OVER IT SINCE IT STEMMED FROM A ILO

DECISION.

8. TURNING TO U.S. HE STATED HE WAS "PUZZLED" BY ITS REMARKS
SICE THE NATURE OF ILO'S ACTIVITIES VARY FROM PLACE
TO PLACE AND TIME TO TIME, SOMETIMES OPERATION, SOMETIMES
ADVISORY. TREND SEEMED TO BE THAT GOVERNMENTS NOW INCREASINGLY
WANT MORE SHORT TERM ADVISORY SERVICES. ON THE QUESTIONS
CONCERNING HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, HE STATED ILO WORKS
COOPERATIVELY WITH ALL ELEMENTS INVOLVED, BUT PARTICULAR WITH
UNESCO SINCE PROGRAMS OF MORE GENERAL NATURE IN
PROVIDING TRAINING IN CONTRAST TO VERY SPECIALIZED
TRAINING OF WHO, FOR EXAMPLE. HE ENDED BY SAYING ILO IS ONLY A
MIRROR OF THE DISAGREEMENTS IN THE WORLD. THERE WAS NO CRISIS
IN THE ILO, MERELY CRITICAL PROBLEMS TO BE FACED IN THE FUTURE.

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